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TO-DAY'S CABLES.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail)

APPALLING PARIS FIRE.
MAGNIFICENT PRINTEMPS BUILDING GUTTED.
DAMAGE MILLIONS OF FRANCS.

PARIS, September 28.

The entire fire brigade of Paris is fighting an appalling fire at the Grands Magasins du Printemps in the Boulevard Haussmann. The fire, which is attributed to a short circuit, started in the kitchen at the top of the building and rapidly spread through the entire building, the front of which soon collapsed. Portions of the burning edifice fell on adjoining buildings. Packers and carmen had earlier endeavoured to save goods, particularly valuable carpets, throwing them out of the windows. The burning block had recently opened a giant crane which is still standing above it and menaces the firemen who have withdrawn from the narrow gap between the new and old blocks as falling facade is filling the street with huge masses of blazing debris.

GOODS OF FABULOUS COST DESTROYED.

The new block of the Printemps Building, a magnificent structure five storeys high covering three acres, has been gutted. The old block was threatened owing to the wind blowing the flames across the narrow street between the buildings and was only saved through the great exertions of the firemen. The fact that the fire started early in the morning before the arrival of 5,000 employees prevented serious loss of life. Hitherto the only casualties have been two firemen injured. The damage must be enormous, possibly millions of francs, as furs, tapestry, and silks of fabulous cost were destroyed.

LEAGUE AND DISARMAMENT.
LORD ROBERT CECIL WINS HEATED DEBATE.

GENEVA, September 28.

The resolution, adopted by the sixth committee (mentioned in our earlier cables) asked the military commission to submit to the Council a draft treaty or some other definite plan for reduction of armaments for presentation to the next Assembly and that in order to enable the commission to accomplish its task the Council would be asked to reinstate the commission.

The debate preceding the adoption of the resolution occupied British representative, Mr. Fisher into opposition with Lord Robert Cecil. Mr. Fisher declared that Britain was very anxious for a reduction in armaments but could not produce general disarmament. He said the world was too disturbed to permit any definite plan and asked how it was possible to draft a proposal for disarmament without the United States and Russia participating. He asked Lord Robert Cecil to withdraw his proposal till next year.

The French delegate M. Reynard supported Mr. Fisher, declaring that consideration of Lord Robert Cecil's resolution was at present impossible. Signor Schanzer (Italy) tried to reconcile the heated speakers.

Lord Robert Cecil said he might reach an agreement with Signor Schanzer but not with Mr. Fisher or M. Reynard who wanted nothing done. This was a matter vital to the League which would be judged on it, not on the questions of Albania, Silesia, or Armenia.

Eventually a joint resolution by Lord Robert Cecil and Signor Schanzer was carried by 22 votes to 0. There were many abstentions. The result was cheered and Lord Robert Cecil was numerously congratulated.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIER VIEWS.

MELBOURNE, September 28.

Mr. Hughes received an enthusiastic welcome on his return from Europe. Interviewed with regard to the possibility of Australia being unofficially represented at the Washington Conference he shook his head and expressed the opinion that it would be like a man presenting himself at the gates of heaven without a ticket of admission. He said that Europe hoped the conference would be successful but it was too early to talk of what was likely to happen. America was very much a novice in international diplomacy and there might be many surprises awaiting American statesmen when the conference met. He declared that a British general election was inevitable soon with the Irish question as a factor because, the people must be consulted whether the Government's offer was accepted or rejected.

JAPAN'S DELEGATES CHOSEN.

WASHINGTON, September 28.

Japan has chosen the Ambassador, Mr. Shidehara, the president of the Upper House, Prince Tokugawa, and the Minister of Marine, Baron Kato as delegates to the Washington conference.

AMERICAN PREPARATIONS.

Mr. Elihu Root arrives at Washington next week when the disarmament conference delegates are expected to begin consultations.

LEAGUE COMMITTEE'S RESOLUTION.

GENEVA, September 29.

The third committee of the League of Nations, on the motion of Lord Robert Cecil, decided to recommend the nations recently admitted to the League not to increase their military and naval expenditure for two years.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OPENS IN PARIS.

PARIS, September 28.

The international conference of weights and measures opened with the Commerce Minister, M. Dior, as chairman. Twenty-five nations are represented, notably Japan, Siam, and the United States. -Havas.

FRANCE THANKED.
AID FOR RUSSIAN REFUGEES.

CONSTANTINOPLE, September 28.

A delegation of the Russian national committee visited on General Pella, the French high Commissioner to thank him for the help granted by France to 155,000 Russian refugees who had now mostly settled in various countries and were now able to support themselves. -Havas.

THE DOLLAR.

Today's closing rate 2/10 5/8
Today's opening rate 2/10 5/8

LIBEL ACTION.
SINGAPORE COLD STORAGE
v. "STRAITS TIMES."

The Straits Times of Sept. 20 reports:—

There was commenced in the Supreme Court this morning before the Chief Justice, Sir Walter Shaw, an action which was instituted in January of last year in which the Singapore Cold Storage, Ltd., claims from the Straits Times Press, Ltd., and Mr. A. W. Still, damages for "libel written and published of and concerning the plaintiffs falsely and maliciously in the issue of the defendants' newspaper, the Straits Times, dated January 7th, 1920, under the headings of "World Food Problems" and "Profiteering."

Mr. G. S. Carver and Mr. Roland Braddell were for the plaintiffs, and Mr. W. E. Demuth and Mr. E. A. Stevens for the defendants.

Mr. Carver, opening, read the statement of claim shewing that the words complained of appeared in the Straits Times of January 7th, 1920 and were as follows:—

"Time after time we have pointed out that the Singapore Cold Storage Company is profiteering ruthlessly. We have shown how easily Government could ascertain the price at which the company buys in Australia, and the cost of freight to Singapore, and all handling charges here. Two or three honest business men would decide in a few hours what are fair prices, but for three to four years, the company has been allowed to put up its prices, and there has not been even a pretence of exercising control. Those interested in the Straits Company are sufficiently influential to overawe the Government, or to persuade it to close its eyes. And, of course as long as the Cold Storage Company is allowed to do as it pleases, the Government dare not interfere with monopolism and profiteering in the live cattle trade. To the small extent of its interference it has been unjust, because there is no decency in punishing petty traders for crimes in cents when big concerns with crimes in dollars go free. The huge surplus of meat in Australia due to the scarcity of ships for transport to Europe has made it possible to supply Malaya with meat, butter, cheese, poultry and the like at prices not a cent higher than pre-war rates. But the Government did nothing and the public has had to submit to being fleeced. One wonders for how long, and whether there is any chance of a strong hand being laid upon the profiteers" and

"Reference is made in our leader to-day to the profiteering of the Singapore Cold Storage Company. The point is this: Owing to the shortage of shipping to convey meat to the European markets there has been a surplus in Australia and New Zealand which assured abundant and cheap supplies to the Singapore Cold Storage Company, which has also had the advantage of regular sailings between Singapore and Australia free from war risk. In spite of this, the Cold Storage Company has profiteered ruthlessly, and the Government, which prosecuted petty traders for petty extortion, has never moved a finger to check the monopolist abuses. The Cold Storage Company has as its directors persons of considerable local influence, and this is the only explanation we can offer of Government inaction."

His Lordship: Is profiteering a crime? A crime is any offence which comes within the criminal law. I suppose there was some law here at the time?

Mr. Carver: There were regulations.

Mr. Braddell, opening on the pleadings, said the plaintiffs sued for damages in respect of a libel which appeared in the defendants' newspaper on January 7, 1920. It appeared in two separate places, a leader and another article. As a matter of fact, although they had not pleaded it, it also appeared in another publication of the defendants—the Straits Budget, which had a wide circulation and was "the retired man's Godsend."

The hearing is proceeding.

A GOOD SUGGESTION.

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BIRTH.

REEVES.—On September 23, 1921, at Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Reeves, a son.

MARRIAGE.

WENN.—STALLARD.—On September 22, 1921, at Shanghai, Alfred Henry Fenn (C. M. Customs), to Florence Lillian Stallard, London.

The China Mail.

— NEWS, JUSTICE, PUBLIC SERVICE —

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, SEPT. 29, 1921.

THE SUPREME COUNCIL.

It seems that the split in the Supreme Council, casually mentioned in yesterday's leading article, has caused the Supreme Councilors to do what they ought to have done at the first outset, namely, to refer the Upper Silesia business to the L. O. N. It was League business all along, as was much else arising out of the peace treaty. Strictly speaking, all differences of opinion arising out of that treaty should have been settled by the League, and the Supremes (as we will call them for convenience) should have backed its decisions. Almost from the beginning the Supreme Council were usurpers. The people saw them as conquerors dictating terms which seemed natural and right; but all the terms they had the right to dictate were in their own favor. During 1919, the Supreme Council may have been an expedient thing, but after that it went too far. The approved necessity of the conservation

of the Anglo-French *entente* has been the chief excuse for the Supremes carrying on beyond their brief and knowing the split has come to discount that. The present state of Europe condemns its claim to be an efficient body. It has created more problems than it has solved. It has revived many of the old evils of diplomacy, attempts to bargain selfishly and to over-reach. It has had no real unity of purpose or guiding principle, such as the L. O. N. has. Whereas a couple of years ago it could profitably have handed over all its tasks (save that of exhibiting the sanction of combined force or power) to the L. O. N., that is not so feasible now. It would not be fairer to the League than it would be to transfer to a qualified medical practitioner a patient whose defects have been aggravated by quacks. The fact is that from the governments which paid it lip-service, the L. O. N. has had mainly scorn, contempt, and treachery. The Supremes turned over to it petty matters to play with, retaining for their own bungling the major problems. The governments sent delegates to it who were good enough as men, but without the prestige of the Supremes. It is not the Supremes as men that we find fault with, since we would wish them to be serving on the League, but as object to the Supreme Council as a Council because it is Supreme. The same men, working on a body with a guiding principle—the League—would have done more good, and less harm, than they have done as a caucus or cabal. The League only "lacks authority" because the authorities have not lent it their support, their prestige, and their responsibility, which, as members of it, was their duty. What little they have done worthily, the same statesmen could have done in the League, and what they have done unworthily, the Supremes would have shrunk from as League. There are universally approved "moral" sanctions in the League that cannot be looked for in a

Supreme Council such as this. Mr. George himself would have been a better man, operating in the L. O. N., than the exigencies of cabal diplomacy have permitted him to be. He has played to the L. O. N., the part that Peter played to his Master, ere the cock crew three. The "practical" Supremes have failed; the "impractical" "Utopian" League has not been given a chance to show that it is the eminently practical saviour that it could be.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

In the Singapore Supreme Court last week the Chief Justice, Sir Walter Shaw, granted a stay of execution in a motion in which the Banque Industrielle de Chine was concerned, on the application of Mr. Laycock for the petitioning creditors.

A new departure is to be taken in the near future by the Osaka Mainichi, one of the two largest papers in Japan. This will be the issuing of an English Sunday edition, highly illustrated and along the lines of an American Sunday paper.

The old cruiser "Hermione," which put in a commission on the China station in 1898-1901, when Captain G. A. Callaghan commanded her, is to be sold out of the service. She was employed on various duties during the war.

Captain R. A. R. Neville, Royal Marine Light Infantry, who was appointed aide-de-camp to the Governor of Hongkong, as from June 11 last, has been seconded whilst so employed. Captain Neville served in the late war and was mentioned in despatches in 1919 for his services.

There was a heavy fall of snow on Mount Fuji on September 16. According to the *Asahi*, this is the first time for the past 60 years that the mountain has been shrouded with snow in September. The Omiyaguchi passage was covered with snow down to the fourth stage.

About 50 representative members of the baristers' associations in Tokyo and Osaka will go to Peking to attend the second meeting of the Asiatic conference of baristers. Sessions will be held for three days beginning October 23. Steps to promote amity between Japanese and Chinese will be taken. Dr. Urabe is president of the Japanese national association of baristers.

A quantity of Chinese porcelains and red lacquer ware, embroidered and bead handbags, amber necklaces, gold breast pins, scarf pins, sleeve buttons, bracelets and brooches, is advertised for sale at public auction by Messrs Hughes and Hough on Friday at 2.30 p.m. The stock, which recently arrived from the North includes pieces from the Ming, Kungchi, Kienlung and Tzong-wang periods. The same auctioneers will also sell a quantity of goods recently arrived from England. Particulars are given in our advertisement columns.

A sensation was caused in Kobe on September 17 upon the arrival of the N.Y.K.S. "Inaba Maru," bound for London, when a dozen of the water police boarded the liner and arrested three Koreans, who are suspected of being leaders in the Korean Provisional Government's administration in Shanghai. The Koreans boarded the boat at Yokohama. No definite evidence has been secured against the men as yet, but they are being held under strict police surveillance. Many letters and documents were seized when their quarters on the boat were raided.

According to a Home paper just to hand British exporters are looking to the East and Far East for an improved demand for coal. Freight has recently declined the easier tendency being assisted by the lower prices of bunker coals. The comparatively low freight of 15s. 6d. per ton is reported to have been accepted for the voyage from South Wales to Singapore. A good mixture of South Wales coal can now be delivered in the East for about 45s. 6d. a ton. This is a price, which, it is understood, gives exporters in Britain a distinct advantage in competitive offers.

A reduction in rates which is the best answer given recently to the widespread complaints against the high cost of travel and living in Japan has just been announced by the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo. Beginning September 15, the price for a single room in the hotel annex is 75¢ a day, and up, a reduction of about 30 per cent. These rates include hot and cold running water, telephone and electric heating. The hotel management, in announcing the reduction, explains that the lower rates are due to the fact that the new Imperial Hotel is nearing completion and will be opened in the near future, giving a much greater number of rooms available for its travellers in Tokyo.

SPECIAL CABLE.

ROCKEFELLER TOUR.

INTEREST IN CHINA AND CHINESE AFFAIRS.

(China Mail Special.)

SHANGHAI, Sept. 29.
Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and party arrived in Shanghai from Peking where they took part in the formal inauguration of the Peking Medical College, funds for which were donated by Mr. John D. Rockefeller Sr. Yesterday Mr. Rockefeller was entertained at dinner by the Chinese Chamber of Commerce. He delivered an address, referring to the interest in China and Chinese affairs.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

One fatal case of plague, Chinese, was notified yesterday.

Scarlet fever is epidemic among foreign children in Peking at present.

The Rotary Club at Kowloon celebrates its patronal festival on Sunday, with a procession and the customary special services.

Among the passengers who arrived in Hongkong by the C.N. s.s. "Huichow" from the North were Major and Mrs. Law of the Wills, Lieut. Halford, also of the Wills, Lieut. Commander Carey, of H.M.S. "Alacrity," Mrs. Stopforth, Mrs. Hunt, and Mr. and Mrs. G. W. C. Barnett.

Mr. Alfred Percy Sinnett, who half a century ago was editor of the *Hongkong Daily Press* and in later years was prominent as a Theosophist, being vice-president of the Theosophical Society, who died in June at the age of 82, left £3,218 gross and £2,813 net. He invented a system of Buddhism of which real Buddhists knew nothing.

Messrs. Hin Fat & Co., have just completed a contract as stevedores in removing 3,500 tons of rail rods from the Blackhead Store at Kowloon to the s.s. "Kochi Maru." It is understood that this undertaking occupied seven days and was conducted under the personal supervision of Mr. Kwok Hui Wang.

Messrs. J. J. Brothers advertise an auction sale of a quantity of household furniture, Canton blackwood-ware, a cottage piano, two bicycles and a motor cycle, for Friday at 2.30 p.m. At noon the same day they will sell 113 rolls of triangular wire mesh and a quantity of short lengths of joists, chain, etc.

The district police have arrested two Chinese alleged to have been implicated in the armed robberies in Kowloon Tong on Tuesday night when five men with cloth masks broke into two matchshops occupied only by women during the absence at market of the male folk. The accused were produced before Magistrate Orme this morning and remanded for a week.

A terrible occurrence is reported from a village in Koshi-ken, Shi-koku. A few days ago an elderly man, assisted by his wife and two children, was taking fruit to market in two carts when he touched a rotten electric pole which had fallen by the roadside and was instantly killed by the electric current. His wife and children attempted to rescue the man but were also killed.

The following officers of the Royal Marines have been posted to the battle-cruiser "Renown" for the Prince of Wales's voyage to India and Japan—Major L. D. Briscoe, Royal Marine Artillery; Lieutenant J. H. G. Wills, Royal Marine Artillery; Lieutenant R. M. Fuller, Plymouth Division, R.M.L.I. A Royal Marine gunner will be appointed later.

The Chinese authorities in Shanghai are reported to have received instructions from Peking to check the activity of the foreign authorities in "making investigations and arresting people outside the limits of the Settlements." Either Peking has been grossly misinformed, or the local reporter has been indulging another little fight of the imagination, says the *N. C. D. News*. No such investigations or arrests have been made.

TYPHOON WARNINGS.

The telegrams quoted below were received by the local American Consulate General from the Manila Observatory—
9 a.m. to-day:
Cyclone or typhoon E. of the Visayas Islands directions unknown.
12 noon to-day:
Cyclone or typhoon E. of Southern Luzon moving N.W.W.

INTERPORT SWIMMING.

FIRST DAY.

JOHNSTONE WINS 880.

HONGKONG LEADING 7-3.

The first two events in the Interport Swimming contest Hongkong v. Shanghai, have been decided. Hongkong secured first and second places in the half mile, and second place in the throwing the Polo Ball event, the honours for which went to MacCabe (Shanghai) with a magnificent throw of 74 feet. MacCabe won the same event when his team was down here in 1909. Busschaert (Hongkong) did not exhibit the form he did during practice, but he was a good second, with 64 feet 9 ins., and contributed two points to Hongkong's score, which at the close of the evening's sport was 7 against Shanghai's 3.

The V.R.C., gaily decorated with flags, presented an animated appearance with its balcony, verandah and, in fact, every point of vantage thronged with eager spectators. Another crowd lined the Praya wall and the stone steps leading to the sea. A lighter which shut off the course from the rest of the harbour and accommodated the judges, and other officials, was also invaded. Everybody was in a festive mood, and when the start was delayed by a couple of minutes many who had stood waiting for half an hour, showed signs of impatience. Many ladies were present, and their dresses of various delicate hues added a touch of colour to the picturesque scene.

The first event was the 880 yards race, 11 times over on 80 yard course in the harbour, outside the Club's wall. There were two prizes for this event: the first presented by Capt. L. Huxey.

The following entered for the race:—
Shanghai: E. A. Th. Siemssen F. A. Remedios J. R. Tordy, J. W. Brown and R. W. MacCabe.
Hongkong: J. Johnstone, G. Jack, D. Laing, S. Marcal, J. Soares and J. Wood.

Of these, only five started, namely, Siemssen and Remedios (Shanghai), Johnstone, Jack and Laing (Hongkong). The men were given an ovation when they took their positions on the starting stage in the following order: Remedios and Siemssen on Johnstone's right, and Jack and Laing on his left.

As the men were being announced by the starter, Mr. R. C. Wittell, one was able to take stock of the principals in the race. Siemssen and Johnstone presented quite a great contrast as they stood side by side. The former was short and stocky, and looked everything that was claimed for him as a powerful swimmer. His appearance was certainly one to cause not a little anxiety to the spectators, let alone his rival, Johnstone, standing a head and shoulder over Siemssen, was more gracefully built, and did not show any extraordinary power. But that appearance was deceptive, he proved conclusively. There was very little to choose in appearance between the other competitors.

The men took the water together in a fine start. For the first length they all took matters easily, and were all together, stroke for stroke. Johnstone adopted his usual graceful style which betrayed no signs of exertion. Siemssen also showed the form of an experienced swimmer, but he rolled a little. The others were a little splashy. Half way through the first length, Remedios began to show signs of discomfort, and fell behind. The others kept close together. There also was very little to choose between Johnstone and Siemssen in the second length. They touched the board together. In the third length Johnstone increased his speed a little, and Siemssen replied strongly. Jack and Laing also kept pace. Remedios fell further behind. Johnstone touched the board a second before Siemssen at the end of the third lap, and kept the same pace in the fourth. Siemssen kept close, but lost ground gradually. Remedios dropped out of the race in this length. In the fifth length, Johnstone further increased his speed, Siemssen accepted the challenge, but he was swimming two strokes to Johnstone's one, and the latter pulled ahead slowly but steadily. Siemssen gave up the chase and turned his attention to Jack and Laing who were swimming together. The next length saw Siemssen swimming a slanting course, inclined towards the lighter. He lost a good bit of ground before he righted himself. Johnstone was swimming strongly about 20 yards in front of the rest. Siemssen again took a faulty course in the seventh length, but managed to keep level with Jack and Laing, who were taking their time. The eighth saw Jack and Laing going faster, but although Siemssen kept close, he realised the hopelessness of the

YOUTHFUL PICKPOCKET.

SIX MONTHS' JAIL FOR OLD OFFENDER.

A small Chinese boy this morning admitted to Magistrate Lindell having picked the pocket of a Chinese in Chinatown yesterday afternoon and stolen 75 cents. The police said that the accused was an old offender. He was sent to jail for two months and ordered to be whipped last year for a similar offence. Sentence of six months at the Lai-chekok prison for youthful offenders was passed.

A BASKET'S CONTENTS.

WOMAN'S PLAUSIBLE EXPLANATION FAILS.

A Chinese woman charged before Magistrate Lindell this morning with the unlawful possession of a revolver said that she met at the Samshui wharf yesterday afternoon a stranger who asked her to carry a small basket for him, telling her that he had suddenly been taken ill and could not make the journey to Hongkong. She was to take the basket here and deliver it at a certain address. She was on her way to this address when the police searched the basket and found the revolver. She denied that she knew the contents of the basket before it was opened. She undertook the job to earn a few cents. A fine of \$100 or six weeks was imposed.

The winner's times at the end of each length were as follows:—

First length	56.3-5secs.
Second	58.3-5secs.
Third	58.3-5secs.
Fourth	58.3-5secs.
Fifth	58.3-5secs.
Sixth	58.3-5secs.
Seventh	58.3-5secs.
Eighth	58.3-5secs.
Ninth	58.3-5secs.
Tenth	58.3-5secs.
Eleventh	58.3-5secs.
Twelfth	58.3-5secs.

The next event was throwing the Polo Ball. For this event the entrants were:

Shanghai: R. W. MacCabe, L. Goldman, C. J. Encarnacao and F. A. Remedios.

Hongkong: E. Busschaert, M. L. Raiton, R. C. Wittell, G. A. Carvalho, J. Soares and L. M. Franco.

Remedios (Shanghai) and Soares (Hongkong) did not compete.

There were also two prizes for this event: the first presented by Mr. C. B. Brooke.

Each competitor had three throws from behind a barrier in the water, six feet from the Praya wall. MacCabe took the lead with the first throw, and improving it in the third, won easily. Distance: 74 feet. Goldman was Shanghai's next best thrower, but he was beaten by Busschaert (Hongkong) with a throw of 64 feet 6 ins. Raiton and Wittell were both in the vicinity of Goldman's throw.

With one first and two seconds, Hongkong will continue the Intersport to-day with 7 points to Shanghai's 3.

The following are the patrons and officials of the Festival:—

President—H. E. Sir Reginald Edward Stubbs, K.C.M.G.
Chairman—Hon. Mr. Cland Severn, C.M.G.

Patrons—H. E. Lieut. General Sir G. M. Kirkpatrick, K.C.B., K.C.S.I., His Honour Mr. Justice H. H. J. Gompertz, Commodore Bowden Smith, C.B.E., R.N., the Hon. Sir C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Lt.-Col. W. O. Sanders, D.S.O., Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak, Hon. Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Hon. Mr. A. G. Stephen, Sir Robert Ho Tung, Hon. Mr. T. L. Perkins, O.B.E., Hon. Mr. Ho Fook, Mr. Robert Shewan.

Judges and Committee—Hon. Mr. J. H. Kemp, C.B.E., Commander Hake, R.N., Messrs. R. M. Dyer, A. Silva-Netto, A. H. Carroll, A. A. Alves, Rev. G. T. Waldegrave, R. W. MacCabe, Commander Preston, R.N., Dr. C. Forsyth, Messrs. J. Rodger, A. McKirdy, T. Meek, A. E. Alves, and B. J. Wilton.

Referee—Mr. W. Logan.
Starters—Messrs. A. A. Alves, R. C. Wittell, and A. E. Alves.

Timekeepers—Captain F. Wheeler, Master Gunner May, Messrs. J. C. Finch, W. Anderson, A. McKirdy, J. Johnstone, sen.

Competitors' Stewards—Messrs. J. Johnstone, G. Sewall, J. Evans, G. Carvalho, M. L. Raiton, E. Busschaert, V. C. Lebrun, and Q. M. S. Alderton.

Hon. Treasurer—Mr. A. E. Alves.
Hon. Secretary—Mr. B. C. Wittell.

TO-DAY'S PROGRAMME.
Two Interport contests are included in to-day's programme which begins at 4 p.m. The 220 yards is down for decision at 4.55 p.m. and the long plunge will take place at 5.20 p.m.

The other events are:—
Two lengths hurdle handicap (members).
High Dive (boys, 14 years of age and under).
Two lengths handicap (ladies).
Two lengths handicap (girls, 14 years of age and under).
Two lengths handicap (members).
Two lengths scratch (boys under 12).
Two lengths team race (six men open to Hong Kong, Clubs, Units and Corps).
Water Polo.

OBITUARY.

MR. LOUIS GETZ.

According to cable advice received by the local office of Messrs. Getz Bros (of the Extreme Orient) Ltd. the death has occurred of Mr. Louis Getz, President of the Company. Mr. Getz, who was 77 years of age, was well known throughout the Orient which he frequently visited. It is to be regretted that Mr. Getz did not survive to take part in the 50th anniversary of the Company which will be celebrated next month.

A BASKET'S CONTENTS.

WOMAN'S PLAUSIBLE EXPLANATION FAILS.

A Chinese woman charged before Magistrate Lindell this morning with the unlawful possession of a revolver said that she met at the Samshui wharf yesterday afternoon a stranger who asked her to carry a small basket for him, telling her that he had suddenly been taken ill and could not make the journey to Hongkong. She was to take the basket here and deliver it at a certain address. She was on her way to this address when the police searched the basket and found the revolver. She denied that she knew the contents of the basket before it was opened. She undertook the job to earn a few cents. A fine of \$100 or six weeks was imposed.

MASKED PIRATE'S EXPLOIT.

JUNK'S CREW IMPRISONED IN HOLD.

GIN DRINKER'S BAY ROBBERY.

The crew of a sanitary junk lying at anchor in Gin Drinkers' Bay were awakened about 10.45 on Monday night by the dog barking from the fore part of the vessel. Before they could arm themselves, four men with cloth masks concealing their features boarded the junk from a dinghy and rushed the sleeping quarters at the stern of the vessel. One of the intruders exhibited a dagger and threatened death if any resistance were offered. The junk master and his joks were dragged out of their beds, bound, gagged, and imprisoned in the hold. The pirates then nailed down the hatch with three long nails, and placed a heavy basket of firewood over it. Having thus secured the prisoners, they ransacked the vessel stealing money and clothing to the value of \$8.10. The junk people managed to release each other after the pirates had left, and to break open the wooden cover of the hatch.

SHORTHAND RESULTS.

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL, KOWLOON (EVENING CLASSES).

The results of the Shorthand Examination held last May are as follows:—

120 words a minute certificate: Mrs. M. P. O'Sullivan, Mr. S. H. Garrod.

100 words a minute certificate: Miss L. M. Collins, Miss B. A. Bliss, Mr. S. H. Garrod.

70 words a minute certificate: Miss L. M. Collins, Miss A. Garth.

60 words a minute certificate: Misses M. Marsh, S. Souza, P. Lopes, L. Gomes, I. Remedios, L. M. Carvalho, T. Gomes, K. Gourdine, N. Leonard, E. M. Cornell.

Theory Certificates:—Misses M. Scott, M. Woolley, M. Ozorio, S. Judah, A. de Sousa, I. da Luz, R. Xavier, L. Carvalho, A. Vichy and Q. Chester.

The Instructor was Mr. T. F. O'Sullivan, F.I.P.S., P.T.C.

"Chinese" Wilson, as he is called—he is really Mr. E. H. Wilson, a Birmingham man, and formerly a journeyman gardener at Kew Gardens—is one of those who have found that romance and adventure are still to be had for the asking. As a result of four journeys into Western China in the past 14 years, says *World's Work*, he has doubled the number of distinct species of wood plants capable of being grown outdoors in England; sent to the Arnold Arboretum, near Boston, Mass (where they are now growing), more different and distinct trees and shrubs than are to be found native in the cool, temperate parts of Eastern North America; collected in the interior of China within the last few years, and successfully introduced into cultivation, more new plants than any other planthunter. Mr. Wilson is not yet 50, but, in addition to his Chinese travels, he has also searched Japan and Korea with good results, and is now on a journey round the world.

TO-DAY'S CABLES.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

RUSSIAN FAMINE RELIEF.

LEAGUE COMMITTEE'S HOT DEBATE.

GENEVA, September 29.

The sixth committee of the League of Nations adopted a report presented by M. Motta to the effect that if the governments fail to provide the necessary credits for famine relief in Russia, the League will not be answerable for the consequences. M. Motta begged Lord Robert Cecil not to insist on the League approving Dr. Nansen's agreement with the Soviet. A hot debate ensued. Lord Robert Cecil moved an amendment urging that no reference be made to the Brussels conference which is also discussing famine relief, saying that the League should act on its own account. Dr. Nansen declared that even if the League was not willing to take responsibility for relief, he would continue his efforts. He expressed the opinion that the League was better qualified to act than the Brussels conference. Lord Robert Cecil's amendment was defeated.

GERMAN COMPOSER DEAD.

BERLIN, September 28.

The death is announced of Herr Humperdinck, the composer of Hansel and Gretel.

SCHOOL CRICKET.

ELLIS KADOORIE DEFEAT DIOCESAN.

Playing on the I.R.C. ground the Ellis Kadoorie Indian School met and defeated the Diocesan Boys' School. Kitchell batted splendidly for the Indian School and made 54 runs. Mohamed made 27 runs. Arculli bowled well taking 7 wickets for 25 runs. For the Diocesan Boys' School Rev. T. Featherstone, W. Hunt played well.

Scores are as follow:—

	ELLIS KADOORIE.	DIOCESAN.
W. Hunt, b Kitchell	0	0
H. Clayton, c Runjahn, b Kitchell	10	10
Mr. D. Trafford, b Arculli	4	4
Mr. Chan, b Arculli	3	3
H. Hunt, b Arculli	5	5
H. Kew, b Arculli	3	3
E. Fincher, c and b Arculli	0	0
H. Bough, b Arculli	5	5
F. Doodha, c and b Mr. Brown	6	6
H. Landolt, not out	1	1
Rev. Featherstone, c and b Arculli	19	19
Extras	6	6
Total	67	67

Bowling Analysis.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
B. Kitchell	7	0	31	2
El Arculli	8	1	25	7
A. O. Brown	2	0	5	1

ELLIS KADOORIE.

A. L. Runjahn, b Fincher	3
W. A. Abbas, b W. Hunt	0
F. M. Arculli, run out	0
D. Mohamed, b Fincher	27
A. O. Brown, b Trafford	15
N. B. Kitchell, l.b.w. Trafford	54
P. Madar, b W. Hunt	1
S. R. Bux, b Trafford	0
M. Hassan, b Trafford	1
J. B. Jahess, st Chan, b Bough	0
Mohan Singh, not out	0
Extras	11
Total	117

Bowling Analysis.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
W. Hunt	8	1	32	3
E. Fincher	5	1	14	2
H. Hunt	4	0	16	0
D. Trafford	5	0	26	4
Featherstone	2	0	16	0
H. Clayton	1	0	6	0
H. Bough	2	0	6	0

ANGLO-INDIAN BEAT DIOCESAN.

This match was played at the I.R.C. on Wednesday. For the Anglo-Indian School Arculli took 7 wickets for 25 runs and Kitchell scored 51. The Diocesan Team were very weak in bowling but their fielding was good. This is the first of a series of School Matches which it is intended to arrange. Lack of suitable playing grounds in Hongkong means that Schools have not much opportunity to play Cricket.

DIOCESAN.

W. Hunt, b Kitchell	0
H. Clayton, c Runjahn, b Kitchell	10
Mr. D. Trafford, c Arculli	4
Mr. T. Chan, c Arculli	3
H. Hunt, c Arculli	5
H. Kew, c Arculli	8
Rev. Featherstone, c Hassan, b Arculli	19
Arculli	0
E. Fincher, c and b Arculli	0
H. Bough, c and b Arculli	5
F. Doodha, c and b Brown	6
H. Landolt, not out	1
Extras	6
Total	67

ANGLO-INDIAN.

A. L. Runjahn, c Fincher	3
W. A. Abbas, c Hunt	0
F. M. Arculli, run out	0
D. Mohamed, c Fincher	27
Mr. A. O. Brown, c Trafford	15
M. P. Madar, c Hunt	1
Total	46

SAVED FROM THE SEA.

CHINESE AND THEIR CHICKENS.

A SHIPWRECKED JUNK.

When the s.s. "Huichow" arrived in Hongkong from Tientsin this morning she brought with her twelve Chinese who had been rescued from a large dismantled junk about fifteen miles to the North West of the Barrier Islands.

Flying a red flag as a distress signal, the junk was sighted at about nine o'clock on the morning of September 26. As the "Huichow" approached it was seen that the disabled craft was waterlogged and rolling heavily and, in spite of the strong wind and rough sea, the second mate (Mr. J. Stewart) and a lifeboat crew put off towards the junk. Though severely buffeted by the waves they succeeded in reaching her and were able to rescue all hands. In addition to the crew of the junk they brought about two small chickens that had managed to survive the perils of the sea and fifteen dozen eggs which formed part of the cargo.

Though not very much the worse, physically speaking, for their experience, the men were naturally overjoyed at their rescue and so eager to get aboard the steamer that two or three of them tried to clamber up the rope ladder at once. They stated that they had left a port near Shanghai about four days previously and that soon after they set sail for the South were caught in a typhoon. They lowered the sails at once but the seas tossed their craft about so badly that they decided to saw off the masts and take their chance of being picked up.

The junk was left at anchor in the present position where it is a menace to shipping. The rescued men will be handed over to the care of the Harbourmaster this afternoon.

ANOTHER DERELICT.
The master of the s.s. "Gregory Apea" reports having passed a derelict junk in Lat. 22.21 N. and Long. 114.22 E., a danger to navigation.

THAT WAR MEMORIAL.

STILL NOTHING DOING.

SIR PAUL CHATER INTERVIEWED.

"Any news of the war memorial?" inquired a *China Mail* reporter of Sir Paul Chater this morning. The Chairman of the War Memorial Committee shook his head. "No," he said "there's not much to say. Of course, we're still waiting for the plans and specifications in connection with the cenotaph to arrive from Home and when they come a start will be made with the work."
And the ex-servicemen's club idea—what's the position about that?" the reporter queried. Sir Paul replied that as far as he knew that notion had been "knocked on the head." "Well then," persisted the pressman "what will the next move be?" "I suppose," Sir Paul said, "that I will have to call a meeting of subscribers in order to discuss what is to be done."

A company of the Wiltshire Regiment, with full band, went for a route march to Kowloon City this morning. They returned to barracks about 2 p.m., attracting much attention en route.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENT.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE Steamship
"KENDAL CASTLE"
From NEW YORK.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Kowloon, whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before 23rd inst.

No claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 5th prox. will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 15th prox. or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns where they will be examined on the 5th prox. at 10 a.m.

No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by DODWELL & CO., LTD.

Agents.
Hongkong, September 29, 1921.

TO-DAY'S NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

G. R. PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS and Conditions of the letting of Public Auction Sale, to be held on MONDAY, the 3rd day of October, 1921, at 3 p.m., at the Office of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of One Lot of CROWN LAND at Hongkong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Lot.	Locality.	Boundary Measurements.	Contents in Acres, Roods, and Perches.	Upset Price.
104	North of Kowloon, between the North and South China Sea.	104	104	104

G. R. PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS and Conditions of the letting of Public Auction Sale, to be held on MONDAY, the 3rd day of October, 1921, at 3 p.m., at the Office of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of One Lot of CROWN LAND at Shaukiwan in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Lot.	Locality.	Boundary Measurements.	Contents in Acres, Roods, and Perches.	Upset Price.
105	Shaukiwan, between the North and South China Sea.	105	105	105

VEREENIGDE NEDERLANDSCHE SCHEEPVAARMAATSCHAPPIJ (United Netherlands Navigation Co.)

HOLLAND-OST AZIE LUN. (Holland-Ost Asia Line)

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.
From ROTTERDAM, AMSTERDAM, HAMBURG, GNOA, PORT SAID & ANTILIA.

THE Steamship "HEROE"

having arrived on the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are notified that all goods arriving landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

Goods not used by the 5th October, 1921, will be subject to rent. All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 4th October, 1921, at 10 a.m. by Messrs. Goddard Douglas.

Claims against the steamer must be presented in writing within ten days after arrival of steamer, otherwise they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by the Underwriter in any case whatever.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JAVA-CRYA-JAPAN LUN, General Agents.

Hongkong, September 29, 1921.

S. O. S.

The Marvellous Picture entitled

"THE SYMBOL OF SACRIFICE"

in 8 Reels

A STORY OF THE BRITISH FLAG AND ITS GLORY.

PRESENTING A CAST OF THOUSAND!!

A VERILY TRIUMPH OF CINEMATOGRAPH! USUAL PRICE.

WORLD THEATRE.

("Where Everyone Goes")

FRIDAY, 30th! FRIDAY, 30th!

For a Short Season Only!

SECURE YOUR SEATS WITHOUT DELAY.

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"HANAN" AND "WALK-OVER" BOOTS AND SHOES

AT LESS THAN NEW YORK PRICES.

JUST RECEIVED

RAINCOATS AND UMBRELLAS AQUASCUTUM COATS.

MILLINERY AND VEILS.

LATEST STYLES AT MODERATE PRICES.

HUMOROUS TALKING RECORDS.

320	MOTORS IN 2 PARTS (HARRY TATE)
7066	COHEN AT THE CALL OFFICE COHEN IS ARRESTED
1516	COHEN ON THE TELEPHONE HAPPY THO' MARRIED
7116	CASEY AT THE DENTIST'S CASEY TAKING THE CENSUS

ANDERSON'S

MUMEYA & SANO

NORMAL ARTIFICIAL LIGHT STUDIO.

Studio reopened at 38-40, Queen's Rd. C. (opposite Hongkong Theatre) photo taken Day and Night using 5,000 c.p. light. Film Printing and Developing undertaken. Special attention to Home portraits. Telephone 254.

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PREPARED PAINTS OF ALL KINDS AND COLOURS.
BERGER'S LIQUID RED LEAD covers 50 per cent. more surface, weight for weight, than the ordinary lead mixed Red Lead.
MATTING—The oil paint you thin with water. Covering capacity one third more than that of Washable Dispersed.
STRUCTURAL & ROOF PAINT—A preservative.
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Sailings: To Canton daily at 8 a.m. and 10 p.m. (Sundays at 9 p.m. only)
From Canton daily at 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Sundays at 5 p.m. only)

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From Macao daily at 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. (Sundays at 9 p.m. only)

Further information may be obtained at the Company's Office, Hotel Mansions, or from Messrs. T. M. Oor & Son, Booking Agents, Hongkong.

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FOR NEW YORK AND BOSTON.
Via SUEZ.

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LLOYD TRIESTINO

TAKING CARGO ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING
FOR LEVANT, BLACK SEA & DANUBE PORTS

FIUME having been re-opened for traffic, cargo is also accepted for this port on through Bills of Lading.

FOR BRINDISI, VENICE, AND TRIESTE

S.S. "PERSIA" Sailing 2nd half of October.

FOR SHANGHAI

S.S. "PERSIA" Sailing on or about 10th October.

Passengers' Luggage can be insured at the office of the Agents.

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SAILING FROM COLOMBO TO
SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS

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SEMI & BANGKOK VIA SAIGON & SINGAPORE—Regular Monthly PASSENGER SERVICE.

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Excellent accommodation for 1st and 2nd class passengers.

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SHANGHAI AND TSINGTAO Oct. 1, at 4 p.m.

SHANGHAI Oct. 2, at 4 p.m.

BOHAI, PAKHOI & HAIPHONG Oct. 2, at 8 a.m.

SWATOW AND SINGAPORE Oct. 2, at 10 a.m.

CHONGKING AND TIENTSIN Oct. 3, at 4 p.m.

CHONGKING AND TIENTSIN Oct. 4, at 10 a.m.

SWATOW AND SHANGHAI Oct. 4, at Noon.

SHANGHAI Oct. 5, at Noon.

SHANGHAI AND TIENTSIN Oct. 5, at 4 p.m.

NEWCHANG AND SHANGHAI Oct. 8, at 4 p.m.

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S.S. "SILVER STATE" Oct. 22nd Nov. 11th.

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Arrive San Francisco.

S.S. "HAWKEYE STATE" Oct. 1st Oct. 23rd.

For PORTLAND DIRECT.

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CADARETTA 29th Sept.

LAKE ONAWA 18th Oct.

FREIGHT ONLY.

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Via Panama

S.S. "SCHODACK" Sep. 29th.

S.S. "JADDEN" Oct. 15th.

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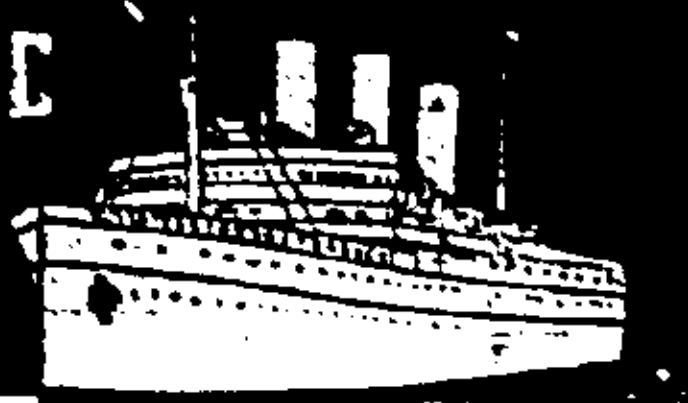
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TO-DAY'S CABLES.

(Reader's Service to the China Mail.)

ADEN ANOTHER SINGAPORE.

PROPOSED TRANSFER TO COLONIAL OFFICE.

CHURCHILL'S SEVERAL SCHEMES.

LONDON, September 28.

The Indian Council of State has carried a motion protesting against the proposed transfer of Aden to the Colonial Office, only one non-official member supporting the transfer, namely the representative of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce who urged that the transfer would benefit trade and commerce with the result that Aden would grow in importance like Singapore. The Foreign Secretary said that the Government's attitude was one of benevolent neutrality. The transfer was largely due to the growing expenditure on Aden.

The *Manchester Guardian* says that Mr. Winston Churchill has several plans for the development of Aden. He hopes to extend the protectorate to the Bahrain islands, thus linking up with Basra on the Persian Gulf. He intends to amalgamate the administration of Aden with that of Somaliland.

ECONOMIC SANCTIONS GOING.

GERMANY ACCEPTS INTER-ALLIED CONTROL CONDITIONS.

PARIS, September 28.

Germany having accepted the conditions regarding the establishment of inter-allied control on the Rhine frontier after the raising of the economic sanctions, M. Briand has informed the German Ambassador that the sanctions will be raised on September 30.

A REMARKABLE SPEECH.

MUNICH, September 28.

A feature of to-day's proceedings of the Congress of the Imperial Association of German Trade was a remarkable speech by Herr Rathenau declaring that complete fulfilment of the terms of the ultimatum will hit the world economically more severely than Germany. Germany must work more than the others. He advocated going to the limit of their capacity regarding reparation.

BERLIN AND MUNICH.

TENSION NOW REMOVED.

MUNICH, September 28.

The constitution committee of the Bavarian Diet has approved the agreements already concluded between representatives of the Bavarian and Imperial Governments on September 24 whereby the tension between the two Governments is removed.

CANADA'S GENERAL ELECTION.

PREMIER DECLARES FOR PROTECTIVE TARIFF.

PORT AGELE PRAIRIE, September 28.

Mr. Meighen opening the election campaign, urged a protective tariff to safeguard Canada's industries from worldwide competition. He did not believe in high protective tariff which would be unfair to the West but proposed a voluntary pool of the principal grains to be handled by a government board.

CHILE AND BOLIVIA.

LEAGUE ASSEMBLY SETTLES INCIDENT.

GENEVA, September 28.

The incident between Chile and Bolivia has been settled by the assembly of the League. The Bolivian delegation withdrew under reserve a request for revision of the treaty. The Chilean delegate said that his Government was prepared to enter into conversations with Bolivia with a view to settlement of grievances.

PRINCE OF WALES.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR VISIT TO JAPAN.

LONDON, September 28.

Arrangements for the visit of the Prince of Wales to Japan are at present being discussed with the Japanese Government. It is anticipated that the Prince of Wales will arrive in Japan in the second week of April.

3,000,000 CEYLON LOAN.

UNDERWRITING REPORTED TO BE IN PROGRESS.

LONDON, September 28.

It is understood that underwriting is in progress for a £3,000,000 Ceylon loan at 6 per cent. the price being 97.

OPPAU DISASTER DEAD.

BERLIN, September 28.

It is semi-officially stated that 414 is the number of the dead in the Oppau explosion. Of this 75 bodies have not been identified. Relatives report 160 missing.

TO-DAY'S CABLES.

(Reader's Service to the China Mail.)

MARK'S RAPID DECLINE.

SPECULATIVE EXCESSES BY UNPATRIOTIC INDUSTRIALISTS.

ANXIOUS BERLIN COMMENT.

BERLIN, September 28.

The rapid decline in the value of the mark is the subject of anxious comment. The newspapers agree in describing it as catastrophic. It is attributed to speculative excesses by unpatriotic industrialists anxious to acquire foreign exchange to cover purchases of raw material.

KRONEN'S FURTHER COLLAPSE.

VIENNA, September 28.

Rumours of difficulties connected with the grant of foreign credits have caused a further collapse in the kronen which is quoted at 34 to the penny.

ARBUCKLE CASE.

POLICE COURT PROSECUTION CLOSED.

SAN FRANCISCO, September 28.

The case for the prosecution against Arbuckle closed at the police court yesterday. The judge warned the district attorney that he was risking the danger of a dismissal by failure to produce more proof but rejected a request from the defence that the charge be dismissed.

CHARGE MANSLAUGHTER.

LATER.

The judge has decided that the evidence against Arbuckle does not warrant a charge of murder. Arbuckle will therefore be tried for manslaughter.

BOYCOTT OF FRENCH GOODS.

ORGANISED MOVEMENT IN GERMANY.

BERLIN, September 28.

The newspapers print the text of a French note requesting Germany to end the French boycott movement which the note declares began in February at Bremen and extended to Hamburg where it received the support of the Hansa League of chambers of commerce. It was thence organised throughout Germany and propagated in technical publications and political organs. The note instances the Bavarian railway authorities threatening to close down restaurants selling entente goods.

STRAINED CHINESE STUDENTS.

PRECARIOUS SITUATION OWING TO INDUSTRIAL DEPRESSION.

LONDON, September 28.

A Paris telegram states that the Mayor of Lyons has arrived in Paris to endeavour to arrange with the Quai d'Orsay and the Chinese Embassy the question of the precarious situation of Chinese students owing to the industrial depression. It appears that between 300 and 400 Chinese students from French industrial centres have already arrived at Lyons and are claiming assistance from the Lyons Franco-Chinese Institute.

AUSTRIA'S SORRY FLIGHT.

POWERS STRIVING TO RESTORE NORMAL CONDITIONS.

GENEVA, September 28.

The Assembly debating committee report on the economic and financial situation of the world. Mr. Arthur Balfour said that there was no more pressing problem than that of Austria. The powers were striving to bring her back to normal conditions. He appealed to Austria's neighbours to assist in the reconstruction work.

BELGIAN AERODROME FIRED.

SEVEN AEROPLANES AND TWO GOLIATHS DESTROYED.

BRUSSELS, September 28.

Seven aeroplanes and two goliaths were destroyed in the fire at the Evere aerodrome which was accidental.

NEW CZECHO-SLOVAK CABINET.

PRAGUE, September 28.

In the new Czecho-Slovak cabinet M. Benes assumed the premiership and the ministry of foreign affairs.—Havas.

UNITED STATES RAILWAYS.

COMMERCE COMMISSION'S GROUPING PLAN.

WASHINGTON, September 28.

The interstate commerce commission has announced that plans will be advanced for the grouping of the major railroads of the United States into 19 systems.

SHIPPING.

PACIFIC COMPETITION.

FREIGHT WAR HARDER THAN EVER.

The freight war, which has now been in existence for some time, is getting more harsh than ever. Even shipping companies which belong to Conferences secretly cut down freight rates, to say nothing of the more honourable competition of tramps. On the Shanghai-Tientsin line severe competition has already been provoked through the intrusion of the Teikwa-yoko. The Yamashita Kisen Kaisha has, on the other hand, put ships on the America-Australian line, and the Osaka Shosen Kaisha on the Calcutta line, while American ships on the Egyptian-American line have been trying very hard to secure shipments. The *Mainichi* remarks that the activity of American ships is especially remarkable in acquiring shipments of Egyptian cotton. Consignors of Egyptian cotton had been about to make agreements with American ships to take shipments at low rates, when they were forced to abandon the agreements owing to the pressure of British conference lines. To counteract this the American Shipping Board is determined, our contemporary says, to down the British ships by the instrumentality of the Jones Act. The gravity, with which shipping companies have invaded the limits of other companies is due, according to the *Mainichi* to circumstances which compel them to adopt that course, as their need of expansion is imperative if they would pay their way. Naturally the competitors find it difficult to fill their holds and sharp competition ensues. Such being the state of affairs, shipping companies, in finding a way out, have no alternative but to cut down expenses. Cheap coal, smaller crews and lower pay are their chief remedies.

INSURANCE OF LOST SHIPS.

INLAND REVENUE AND ACCRETION OF CAPITAL.

In the House of Commons Sir Cecil Beck asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether the Government intended to abide by the pledges given to those who built ships during the war, whether seeing that the true legal position as regards special allowances for depreciation of value was set out in the circular prepared by the Board of Inland Revenue and circulated by the Ministry of Shipping on the 25th of May, 1917, he could state on whose authority an attempt was being made, in apparent defiance of the law, to deduct from special allowances as set out in the above circular certain accretions of capital arising through insurance of lost ships?

Mr. Hilton Young.—The matter is one in the first place for the Board of Inland Revenue (subject to an appeal to the Board of Referees), and the Board of Inland Revenue take the view, a view from which I see no reason to dissent, that in cases where an appreciation in the value of a ship has been realised by the recovery of insurance money based on the increased value the realised appreciation was a factor which should properly be taken into consideration in connection with a claim for allowance in respect of exceptional depreciation of other vessels. I cannot agree with my hon. friend's suggestion that this view in any way violates either the provisions of the law or the terms of any undertaking given by the Board of Inland Revenue.

THE NEW YORK LINE.

Shipping conditions between the Orient and New York are anything but satisfactory, and it is even found difficult to maintain the solidarity of the Conference, while the freight rates of various shippers are quite disordered. It was expected that condition would become worse through the attempt of the Trans-American railways to absorb shipments via the Pacific ports to New York by decreasing freights. These expectations, however, have proved far from the mark, for the activity of the

homeward Trans-Pacific line and the recovery of the outward line due to the deficiency of foodstuffs in Europe have created a tendency for the New York line to receive more cargoes, while freight rates have already been reduced by shipowners to the largest possible extent. Some of the participants in the Conference therefore advocate that it is necessary for them to act in union and maintain the solidarity of the Conference at this time of depression. These overtures will shortly be supported by all the participants, and the situation is such that the Conference will substantially be remodelled soon. Important shipments to New York are generally from China and the South Seas.

GENERAL NOTES.

Japanese goods in the South Seas find their markets steadily encroached upon by foreign goods. The severest sufferers are piecegoods and porcelain. Manchester goods are entering the islands at low figures. In the case of porcelain, German and Dutch goods are coming in. These foreign-made piecegoods and pottery are 20 to 15

per cent. cheaper than Japanese goods.

It will be remembered that the Osaka Shosen Kaisha placed orders with a British shipbuilding yard for construction of the "London-maru" and the "Paris-maru." Now it is reported that the "London-maru" was launched on September 3, being completed in the early part of November. Upon completion, it will be placed on the European run. It is of 15,000 tons, running 14 knots an hour. The "Paris-maru" is expected to be completed next January.

The Pacific Freight Conference has reduced the rate on sweet oranges from \$10 to \$8 from the beginning of September. The rate on raw silk from Shanghai to America has been lowered from \$7.50 to \$6. To compete with the Conference, C.P.O.S. reduced the orange rate to \$10 some time ago, and as its liners reach their destination two or three days earlier than the steamers of the Conference ships, shipments are sent for preference by the Canadian company.

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

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GRUYERE	\$1.25 per lb.
GOUDA (Full Cream)	1.15 " "
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PICNIC (own make)50 " Jar.
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23, Queen's Road Central, Tel. 1559.**

CHINA CAST.

SHIPPING PERSONALS.

LATEST CHANGES.

Mr. F. Gibbs, second officer, "Kwelin," has gone second officer, "Chili."

Mr. W. G. Mackenzie, from reserve, has gone second officer, "Chenau."

Mr. A. Buchanan, chief engineer, "Chenau," is on leave.

Mr. J. W. Kennedy, second engineer, "Kashan," has gone acting chief engineer, "Chenau."

Captain S. Polkinghorne, from leave, has gone master, "Tuckwo."

Captain J. Campbell, of the "Tuckwo," is on leave.

Mr. E. A. M. Sharatt, third officer, "Yuenang," has gone third officer, "Cheongshing."

Mr. A. L. Wood has been appointed supernumerary second officer, "Tungtung."

Mr. J. C. Younger, supernumerary second officer, "Cheongshing," has gone supernumerary second officer, "Yuenang."

Mr. G. H. Hodgson, acting chief officer, "Fooshing," has gone additional second officer, "Namsang."

Mr. C. F. Hulse, supernumerary second officer, "Namsang," has resigned.

Mr. R. Hitchens, supernumerary second officer, "Tungtung," has resigned.

Mr. S. F. Finch, second officer, "Sumo," is on leave.

Mr. M. Hansen, second officer, "Kiangshing," has gone second officer, "Kiangshing."

Mr. W. R. Elders, from leave, has gone second officer, "Kiangshing."

Mr. N. Buys, from reserve, has gone acting chief officer, "Kwangchi."

Mr. J. Mackellar, second officer, "Taishun," has gone acting chief officer, "Kiangshing."

Mr. J. W. McLeod has been appointed second officer, "Taishun."

Mr. L. F. Raks, second officer, "Toonan," has gone acting chief officer, "Kwangchi."

Mr. T. Fraser, from leave, has gone second engineer, "Kwellee."

Mr. J. Stewart, chief engineer, "Yuanun," has gone chief engineer, "Shir Kiangshing."

Mr. G. Cosciandick, second engineer, "Kwellee," has gone second engineer, "Kiangkong."

Mr. A. G. Simpson, from leave, has gone second engineer, "Hainning."

Mr. J. Carnochan, third engineer, "Hainning," has gone acting second engineer, "Hainkong."

Mr. W. Buntain, second engineer, "Hainning," has gone second engineer, "Kiangwah."

Mr. J. Malcolm, second engineer, "Kiangwah," has gone acting chief engineer, "Yushun."

A party of junior naval officers who have been detached from Home ships and appointed to submarines in the China Squadron arrived here by the "Sardinia" yesterday from London. They were Lieut. D. Forbes, B. W. Galpin, G. Hawkins, J. R. Mitford, T. F. H. Parkinson, B. Ruck Keene and Pay-Lieut. E. V. White. Lieut. Forbes, Galpin and White disembarked here and the others are proceeding to Shanghai to join the submarines at present there.

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"TITAN"	25th Oct.	London, Amsterdam & Antwerp
"HEBUS"	8th Nov.	London, Amsterdam & Antwerp
"MENTOR"	15th Nov.	London, Amsterdam & Antwerp
"MACHAON"	22nd Nov.	London, Rotterdam & Hamburg

LIVERPOOL SERVICE

	(Direct or via Continental Ports)	
"PYRHEUS"	3rd Oct.	Havre & Liverpool
"TITAN"	10th Oct.	Genoa, Marseilles & Liverpool
"HEBUS"	18th Oct.	Rotterdam & Liverpool
"MENTOR"	11th Nov.	Genoa, Marseilles & Liverpool

PACIFIC SERVICE

	(via Kobe and Yokohama)	
"TENDAREUS"	5th Oct.	Victoria, Seattle and Vancouver
"PROTEUS"	2nd Nov.	
"TITAN"	23rd Nov.	

NEW YORK SERVICE

	(via Suez or Panama)	
"PYRHEUS"	13th Oct.	via Suez

PASSENGER SERVICE

"PYRHEUS"	11th Oct.	for Singapore & London
"MENTOR"	30th Oct.	for Shanghai
"MENTOR"	15th Nov.	for Singapore & London

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POST OFFICE NOTICES.

Parcel Post Service to Fusch and places beyond Nanning is temporarily suspended.

It is forbidden to send by post Opium, Morphine, Cocaine and other Narcotics except in insured parcels accompanied by a permit to export signed by the Superintendent of Imports and Exports.

The rates of postage on correspondence from India to Hongkong have been increased from 1st September 1931 as follows:	
LETTERS—	Not exceeding 1 oz. 2 annas.
For each additional oz.	1 anna.
POSTCARDS—	Single 1 anna.
Reply paid	3 annas.
PRINTED PAPERS—	For every 5 oz. 3 annas.
COMMERCIAL PAPERS—	For the first 10 oz. 3 annas.
For each additional 5 oz.	1 anna.
SAMPLES—	For the first 4 oz. 1 anna.
For each additional 5 oz.	1 anna.

INWARD MAILS.

From	THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29.	Per
Jai an and Shanghai	11.30 a.m.	Inaba Maru
Shanghai	1.00 p.m.	Szechuen

OUTWARD MAILS.

For	THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29.	Time
Gamsbai and Wuchow	4.00 p.m.	
Szechuen and Shanghai	4.30 p.m.	Tungtung
Szechuen	5.00 p.m.	Derwent
Hobow	5.30 p.m.	Saichow

For	FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30.	Time
Straits, Bangkok, Ceylon, Mauritius, L. Marques, South Africa, India, via	8.45 a.m.	Inaba Maru
Obancho, Egypt & EUROPE via	9.30 a.m.	Chongshing
MARSEILLES	9.45 a.m.	Haibong
Tientsin, Amoy and Poochow	11.00 a.m.	Loongang
Philippine Islands	1.00 p.m.	
Shanghai, North China, Japan, Honolulu, Canada, United States, Central & South America, & EUROPE via	1.30 p.m.	
SAN FRANCISCO	1.45 p.m.	
Letters Saturday, Oct. 1, 8.30 a.m.		

For	SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1.	Time
Japan, Canada, "United States" via	8.45 a.m.	Kashima Maru
"South America" & "EUROPE" via	9.30 a.m.	Fooshing
VICTORIA, B.C. Registration 8.45 a.m.		
Letters 9.30 a.m.		

For	SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2.	Time
Hobow and Haiphong	11.00 a.m.	Kishu Maru
Szechuen, "Straits" and "Bangkok" via	1.00 p.m.	Yingchow
Shanghai and North China	3.00 p.m.	Suiyang
Shanghai and North China	5.00 p.m.	Kaitong

For	SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2.	Time
Swatow, Amoy and Keelung	8.00 a.m.	Amoy Maru
Swatow, "Straits" and "Bangkok" via	8.45 a.m.	Langchow
Haiphong	9.00 a.m.	Foohow
Swatow and Haiphong	9.45 a.m.	Lokang

For	MONDAY, OCTOBER 3.	Time
Shanghai, "North China," "Straits" Japan	11.00 a.m.	Arabia Maru
Swatow, "Straits" and "North China"	1.00 p.m.	Chongshing
Chiafoo and Tientsin	1.30 p.m.	Haibong
Hobow and Haiphong	1.45 p.m.	Lokang

For	TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4.	Time
Swatow and Bangkok	8.00 a.m.	Kwangchow
Sandakan	11.00 a.m.	Hingang
Swatow, Shanghai and "North China"	1.00 p.m.	Szechuen
Shanghai and North China	3.00 p.m.	Suming

For	THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6.	Time
Swatow, Amoy and Poochow	11.00 a.m.	Haibong
Amoy and Philippine Islands	1.00 p.m.	Tungtung
Shanghai and North China	3.00 p.m.	Szechuen

For	FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7.	Time
Swatow, Amoy and Poochow	11.00 a.m.	Haibong
Amoy and Philippine Islands	1.00 p.m.	Tungtung
Shanghai and North China	3.00 p.m.	Szechuen

For	SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8.	Time
Swatow, Amoy and Poochow	11.00 a.m.	Haibong
Amoy and Philippine Islands	1.00 p.m.	Tungtung
Shanghai and North China	3.00 p.m.	Szechuen

For	SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10.	Time
Swatow, Amoy and Poochow	11.00 a.m.	Haibong
Amoy and Philippine Islands	1.00 p.m.	Tungtung
Shanghai and North China	3.00 p.m.	Szechuen

For	MONDAY, OCTOBER 11.	Time
Swatow, Amoy and Poochow	11.00 a.m.	Haibong
Amoy and Philippine Islands	1.00 p.m.	Tungtung
Shanghai and North China	3.00 p.m.	Szechuen

*Correspondence bearing vessel's name only

The P. & O. a.s. "Karnika" is expected to leave Singapore for Hongkong on Oct. 4.

The local office of the Pacific Mail Steamship Co. is in receipt of telegraphic advice from its Manila office that the a.s. "Golden State" (voyage 8) will leave that port on Wednesday Sept. 28 at 8 p.m. and is due at this port on Friday Sept. 30 at daylight. The vessel is expected to arrive here on Wednesday, Oct. 5 at noon.

The a.s. "Theodore" (Elze Yanoel) left Shanghai on Sept. 23 for Liverpool via Havre via Hongkong. The vessel is due here on Oct. 1 and will leave as above on Oct. 5.

The O.P.S. R.M.S. "Montague" left Vancouver for Hongkong via Japan ports, Shanghai, on Sept. 28 and is due here on or about Oct. 5.

PICKPOCKETS' DODGE FAILS.

SIX WEEKS' JAIL FOR STEALING PURSE.

Magistrate Lindsell had before him this morning two Chinese youths charged respectively, with having picked pockets and received stolen property. Both entered pleas of not guilty.

The complainant said that he was walking along the Praya yesterday afternoon when the first defendant jostled him and then fell on the ground, seizing witness's coat, and complaining that he had hurt his foot. His suspicions aroused, the witness put his hand in his pocket and found his purse missing. He grabbed the defendant, who then admitted taking the purse but offered to return it if the witness would promise not to give him in charge and help him find the man to whom he had passed the purse. The witness and a district watchman who arrived just then, went with first accused to Lower Macao Row where he pointed out second accused. When the watchman made to arrest him, the latter dropped what appeared to be a \$5 bill. It was picked up by another youth who was with second accused. This man made off with the money. The witness and the watchman brought both accused to the station.

The Magistrate passed sentence of six weeks' hard labour each.

CHINA'S FUTURE.

MR. LENOX SIMPSON'S VIEWS.

Mr. R. Lenox Simpson, Adviser to the Chinese Government, gave an address on August 22 to the Chinese Students' Conference at Swanwick, Derbyshire. Speaking of the unsettled state of China, he said:—It is my belief that in the course of the next year or two the true solution will suddenly occur to every one, which is that something closely resembling British Dominion Home Rule is needed in a country of such vast size as China, and that the central capital should be no more than a national clearing-house for business of a specified nature. I have important recommendations to make when I return to China. It must never be forgotten that England for eighty years has been the premier Power in the Far East, and that if she wishes to retain that proud position commercially and industrially she must unite her policy so far as possible with China's policy. In the long run the vast mass of the Chinese people, their capacity for work and their great supplies of raw materials, will exercise a preponderating influence politically on the Pacific and decide the problems of Eastern Asia in a sense different from what one school of thought has propagated during the past decade.

It is not generally known that that great and tragic figure, that late Lord Kitchener, when he visited Peking twelve years ago offered in writing to reform the Chinese army, and make it able to meet any foe within the space of two years. He was a good judge, and never spoke lightly. To-day it is peace, not war, that the world must have—universal peace is our common ideal. Yet, nevertheless, it should not be banished from our minds that China is a strong and virile nation in every sense of the word, and that her value as a friend and an ally extends to every field of human activity, and must increase from year to year.

Magistrate Lindsell heard further evidence yesterday about the paddy worm poisoning case. One of the assistants at the medicine shop who was one of the victims said that after tasting the food he at once suspected the paddy poisoning in it to be arsenic. He was in charge of the poison in the shop and he kept the stock of arsenic hidden under his clothes in an unlocked drawer. The hearing was further adjourned.

Several well known Hongkong people came back to the Colony from home yesterday. The s.s. "Sardinia" brought Dr. B. H. Mellon, the Port Health officer, Capt. V. Mc. C. Liddell, of Jardine, Matheson's, and Mrs. Dutton and her two children. Mr. E. J. Ainslie of Lane, Crawford and Coy. came back by the s.s. "Abuta Maru," and another passenger by that vessel was Mr. G. B. Moss, of the British Consulate at Canton, who was accompanied by his wife and children. It is understood that Mr. Moss will be transferred to Chungking.

RHEUMATISM.

ITAYE has been tried for rheumatism in the Palm Balm for rheumatism. It not only cures the disease, but the longer this disease runs on the longer it is to cure. Get a bottle to-day, apply it with a vigorous massage to the afflicted parts and you will be surprised and delighted at the relief obtained. For sale by all Chemists and Dispensaries.

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NEW P. AND O. LINER

FIRST OF NEW FLEET OF STEAMERS.

The trials have taken place in Belfast Lough of the twin-screw passenger steamer "Baradine," the first of the new fleet of steamers of the P. & O. class building by Messrs. Harland and Wolff to the order of the P. & O. Steam Navigation Co. She is the first of five, three-building at Caird's old Greenock yard and two at Belfast. She is 537 ft. long by 64 ft. beam, and 41 ft. deep, with a gross tonnage of 12,300 tons. The "Baradine" is propelled by two sets of quadruple expansion engines, balanced on the Yarrow-Schmidt "Kneeless" system's bridge.

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